PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY To: **PCT** WRAY & ASSOCIATES Level 4 The Quadrant WRITTEN OPINION OF THE 1 William Street INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY PERTH WA 6000 (PCT Rule 43bis.1) Date of mailing 1 MAR 2005 (day/month/year) Applicant's or agent's file reference FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below 114124:PMC International application No. International filing date (day/month/year) Priority date (day/month/year) PCT/AU2005/000094 27 January 2005 30 January 2004 International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC i. Cl. 7 B60V 1/08, B64C 39/12 **Applicant** ELLNOR, Piet This opinion contains indications relating to the following items: Basis of the opinion Box No. I **Priority** Box No. II Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability Lack of unity of invention Box No. IV Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement Box No. VI Certain documents cited Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application Certain observations on the international application Box No. VIII **FURTHER ACTION** If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPBA and the chosen IPBA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered. If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later. For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220. Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU Authorized Officer **AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE** PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA **COLIN FITZGIBBON** E-mail address: pct@ipaustralia.gov.au Telephone No. (02) 6283 2226 Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929

From the:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2005/000094

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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/AU2005/000094

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| Novelty (N) | Claims | 6 to 26, 28 to 32 | YES |
|-------------------------------|--------|-----------------------|-----|
| | Claims | 1 to 5, 27 | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | 6 to 24; 26, 28 to 32 | YES |
| | Claims | 1 to 5, 25, 27 | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1 to 32 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |

Citations and explanations:

The following documents identified in the International Search Report have been considered for the purposes of this report:

D1 RU 2224671 C1 (Takhn SDP Stock Co)

D2 US 2003/0173455 A1 (Herpay)

Novelty (N) Claims 1 to 5, 27

Claim 1

The invention defined in Claim 1 is not considered to be novel in light of D1. The abstract of the citation discloses a wing-in-ground-effect craft characterised by canard configuration, having a canard forewing (2) and a main wing (3) as defined.

Claims 2 to 5

The ratios of canard forewing surface area to main wing surface area as defined in Claims 2 to 5, are explicitly disclosed in the range 0.2 to 1.0 defined in D1, hence these claims are not novel.

Claim 27

D1 discloses the wing-in-ground-effect craft having a single vertical stabliser (4) located at the rear, as defined in Claim 27.

Inventive Step (IS) Claims 1 to 5, 25, 27

Claims 1 to 5

As above

Claim 25

Although no individual citation discloses the invention as defined in Claim 25, the combination of D1 and D2, such a combination being obvious to the person skilled in the art, does. D1 is directed to a wing-in-ground-effect craft characterised by canard configuration, having a canard forewing (2) and a main wing (3), while D2 is directed to an amphibious wing-in-ground-effect craft having a planing hull. The combination of these two citations therefore results in the invention defined in Claim 25, which does not involve an inventive step.

Claim 27

As above